AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) An ergonomic duty belt for carrying accessories, said ergonomic duty ~~ergonomic~~ belt designed for wear by a human user wearing pants with belt loops, comprising:

a liner belt sized for passage through belt loops, said liner belt having a longitudinal axis parallel with the long dimension of said liner belt, a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the user of said ergonomic duty belt when said ergonomic duty belt is in use, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use;

an outer belt having a longitudinal axis parallel with the long dimension of said outer belt,

a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the outer face of said liner belt, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use, with said outer belt being removably attachable to said liner belt;

an inner cushion layer adjacent the inner face of said outer belt, said inner cushion layer formed of open cell foam configured to wick moisture away from said user;

an outer cushion layer, said outer cushion layer located adjacent said inner cushion layer, said outer cushion layer formed of closed cell foam configured to provide a resilient pad between said user and accessories on said ergonomic duty belt;

a semi-rigid frame member attached to and adjacent to said outer cushion layer;

a pliable outer covering, said pliable outer covering which covers said semi-rigid frame member, said outer cushion layer, and said inner cushion layer; and

an accessory attachment system attached to said semi-rigid frame member, for attachment of accessories.

25. (Previously Presented) The ergonomic duty belt of claim 24 in which said semi-rigid frame member is cut in the shape of a frustum of a cone, said semi-rigid frame member having a smaller length at its top and a longer length at the bottom, said semi-rigid frame member shaped to fit the waist contours of said user's body.

26. (Previously Presented) The ergonomic duty belt of claim 24 where said outer cushion layer is narrower in the area adjacent said user's hips and wider in the region of said user's back, with said variable width configured to provide increased comfort combined with decreased pressure load upon the body of said user.

27. (Previously Presented) The ergonomic duty belt of claim 24 where said inner face of said pliable outer cover is constructed of a mesh material, said mesh material configured to aid removal of moisture from said user.

28. (Previously Presented) An ergonomic duty belt for carrying accessories, said ergonomic duty belt designed for wear by a human user wearing pants with belt loops, comprising:

a liner belt sized for passage through belt loops, said liner belt having a longitudinal axis parallel with the long dimension of said belt, a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the user of said ergonomic duty belt when said belt is in use, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use;

an outer belt having a longitudinal axis parallel with the long dimension of said outer belt, a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the outer face of said liner belt, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use, with said outer belt being removably attachable to said liner belt;

an inner cushion layer adjacent the inner face of said outer belt, said inner cushion layer formed of open cell foam configured to wick moisture away from said user;

an outer cushion layer, said outer cushion layer located adjacent said inner cushion layer, said outer cushion layer formed of closed cell foam to provide a resilient pad between said user and accessories on said ergonomic duty belt, said outer cushion layer narrower adjacent said user's hips and wider in the region of said user's back, with said variable width configured to

provide increased comfort combined with decreased pressure load upon the body of said user;

a semi-rigid frame member attached to and adjacent to said outer cushion layer, with said semi-rigid frame member cut in the shape of a frustum of a cone, said semi-rigid frame member having a smaller length at its top and a longer length at the bottom, said semi-rigid frame member shaped to fit the waist contours of said user's body;

a pliable outer covering, said pliable outer covering which covers said semi-rigid frame member, said outer cushion layer, and said inner cushion layer, an inner face of said pliable outer cover is constructed of a mesh material, said mesh material configured to aid removal of moisture from said user; and

an accessory attachment system attached to said semi-rigid frame member, for attachment of accessories.

29. (Presently Amended) An ergonomic duty belt for carrying accessories, said duty belt designed for wear by a human user wearing pants with belt loops, comprising:

a liner belt sized for passage through belt loops, said liner belt having a longitudinal axis

parallel with the long dimension of said belt, a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the user of said ergonomic duty belt when said belt is in use, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use;

an outer belt having a longitudinal axis parallel with the long dimension of said outer belt, a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the outer face of said liner belt, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use, with said outer belt being removably attachable to said liner belt, said outer belt comprising;

an inner cushion layer adjacent the inner face of said outer belt, said inner cushion layer formed of open cell foam configured to wick moisture away from said user;

an outer cushion layer, said outer cushion layer located adjacent said inner cushion layer, said outer cushion layer formed of closed cell foam configured to provide a resilient pad between said user and accessories on said ergonomic duty belt;

a semi-rigid frame member attached to and adjacent to said outer cushion layer;

a pliable outer covering, said pliable outer covering which covers said semi-rigid frame member, said outer cushion layer, and said inner cushion layer; and

a ~~semi-rigid~~ duty belt formed from a semi-rigid material positioned on an exterior of said outer belt, and removably attached to said outer belt, said duty belt for attachment of accessories.

30. (Previously Presented) The ergonomic duty belt of claim 29 in which said semi-rigid frame member is cut in the shape of a frustum of a cone, said semi-rigid frame member having a smaller length at its top and a longer length at the bottom, said semi-rigid frame member shaped to fit the waist contours of said user's body.

31. (Previously Presented) The ergonomic duty belt of claim 29 where said outer cushion layer is narrower in the area adjacent said user's hips and wider in the region of said user's back, with said variable width configured to provide increased comfort combined with decreased pressure load upon the body of said user

32. (Presently Amended) The ergonomic duty belt of claim 29 which further comprises a

lumbar pillow removably attached to a midpoint of said outer belt, configured to form a supporting feature on said inside of said outer belt.

33. (Presently Amended) An ergonomic duty belt for carrying accessories, said ergonomic duty belt designed for wear by a human user wearing pants with belt loops, comprising:

a liner belt sized for passage through belt loops, said liner belt having a longitudinal axis parallel with the long dimension of said belt, a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the user of said ergonomic duty belt when said belt is in use, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use;

an outer belt having a longitudinal axis parallel with the long dimension of said outer belt, a transverse axis generally perpendicular to said longitudinal axis, an inner face, said inner face for placement adjacent the outer face of said liner belt, an outer face for placement away from the body of said user when said ergonomic duty belt is in use, with said outer belt being removably attachable to said liner belt, said outer belt comprising;

an inner cushion layer adjacent the inner face of said outer belt, said inner cushion

layer formed of open cell foam configured to wick moisture away from said user;

an outer cushion layer, said outer cushion layer located adjacent said inner cushion layer, said outer cushion layer formed of closed cell foam to provide a resilient pad between said user and accessories on said ergonomic duty belt, where said outer cushion layer is narrower in the area adjacent said user's hips and wider in the region of said user's back, with said variable width configured to provide increased comfort combined with decreased pressure load upon the body of said user;

a semi-rigid frame member attached to and adjacent to said outer cushion layer, in which said semi-rigid frame member is cut in the shape of a frustum of a cone, said semi-rigid frame member having a smaller length at its top and a longer length at the bottom, said semi-rigid frame member shaped to fit the waist contours of said user's body;

a pliable outer covering, said pliable outer covering which covers said semi-rigid frame member, said outer cushion layer, and said inner cushion layer; and

a ~~semi-rigid~~ duty belt formed from a semi-rigid material positioned on an exterior of said outer belt, and removably attached to said outer belt, said duty belt for attachment of accessories; and

a lumbar pillow removably attached to a midpoint of said outer belt ~~between said liner belt and said outer belt~~, configured to form a supporting feature on said inside of said outer belt, said lumbar pillow fixed to the outer belt at one end of the lumbar pillow, and removeably attached at the other end of the lumbar pillow.

34. (Presently Amended) The ergonomic duty belt of claim 33 which further comprises a plurality of slidable fasteners sized to surround said outer belt and said ~~semi-rigid~~ duty belt formed from a semi-rigid material, said slidable fasteners configured to adjustably secure said outer belt to said ~~semi-rigid~~ duty belt formed from a semi-rigid material.